

Washington, D.C. –U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today introduced a resolution honoring the service and bravery of eight marines from the 3rd Battalion 1st Marines who fought in Haditha, Iraq on November 19, 2005. After being wrongfully accused of committing war crimes following a violent battle in which one marine was killed, the eight marines were recently acquitted on all charges.

“These eight brave marines risked their lives and lost a friend serving their country,” Rooney said. “They performed their duties with extreme bravery and courage in the face of danger from explosive devices and small-arms fire from insurgents.”

Rooney’s resolution honors the service of Sergeant Sanick Dela Cruz, Captain Randy Stone, Lance Corporal Justin Sharratt, Captain Lucas McConnell, Lance Corporal Stephen Tatum, Lieutenant Andrew Grayson, Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey Chessani, and Staff Sergeant Frank Wuterich and thanks them for their courage and composure in the face of battle. The resolution mourns the loss of Lance Corporal Miguel Terrazas.

Reps. Joe Wilson (SC-2), Jack Kingston (GA-1) and Duncan Hunter (CA-52) are original cosponsors of the resolution.

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